

**REMARKS**

Claims 9-11 are pending in the present application, claims 1-8 having been cancelled herein without prejudice due to the election requirement, and claim 10 having been withdrawn. The Office Action and cited references have been considered. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is thanked the courtesy shown during the telephone interview on June 21, 2007. As indicated in the Interview Summary Record, Applicant requested clarification of the election of species requirement and the Examiner indicated that the election was meant to state "before or after webs were joined together" rather than "before or after the corrugating device", so that the election would be between the embodiment shown in Fig.1 versus the embodiment shown in Fig.7. Under this interpretation, Applicant reaffirms the election of printing after the webs were joined together as shown in Fig.7. Claim 9 is generic and claim 11 is directed to the species of Fig. 7, and both are hereby elected. Claim 10 as indicated as being withdrawn as directed to a non-elected species.

Claims 9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Alden (PCT Publication WO2004/041541) in view of Welschlau (U.S Patent 4,587,898) as evidence by Spann (U.S. Patent 6,491,361). Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Hoffman (U.S. Patent 5,882,746) in view of Welschlau and Maddalon (U.S. Patent 6,820,526). These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 9 has been amended by adding the following steps, which are disclosed in the original specification:

- the determination of the distances between adjacent marks on the webs of material by a measuring device in signaling connection with a control device is disclosed on the original page 6, lines 24 to 29, page 9, lines 20 to 26, and page 11, lines 16 to 19,
- the determination of the shrinkage in at least one direction of the web is disclosed on the original page 11, lines 20 to 29, and
- the determination of scaling factors is disclosed on the original page 12, lines 4 to 8.

The new claim 12 is essentially a combination of the amended claim 9 and the feature that the cutting is controlled by the control device. This feature is disclosed on the original page 12, lines 11 to 15.

These features are not taught, disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claim 9 is non-obvious in view of Aldén in view of Welschlau and Spann.

Aldén discloses a method of printing and cutting a plane workpiece to be assembled into a three-dimensional construction. Aldén does not disclose a method for the manufacture of sheets of corrugated board according to the generic term of claim 9. Accordingly, a person skilled in the art would not consider this disclosure when developing such a method, which is object of the current invention.

Moreover, since the disclosure by Aldén does not concern the process of manufacturing corrugated board, it does not disclose a corrugating machine with at least two unroll stands or processing equipment for producing at least one web of corrugated board

according to the features of claim 9. As a further consequence, Alden does not disclose measuring devices or a control device used for determining the shrinkage of the web and for accordingly determining the scaling of the printing pattern. Such features are entirely non-obvious from the teaching of Aldén, since there is no shrinkage of the work pieces to be printed on according to the disclosure by Aldén.

Welschlau discloses an arrangement for manufacturing printed corrugated paper cuts with an integrated rotary printing machine and at least one cutter. Welschlau does not disclose a method comprising the step of digitally printing at least one web of material. Furthermore, the use of a measuring device and a control device for determining the shrinkage of the corrugated board and for determining the scaling of the printing pattern accordingly is not known from Welschlau.

Finally, Spann discloses a method for printing and cutting printed media with a pre-defined shape. Spann does not disclose a method for the manufacture of corrugated board according to the generic term of claim 9. As for the disclosure by Aldén, a person skilled in the art would not consider this disclosure when developing a method for the manufacture of corrugated board. Similarly, Spann does not disclose a corrugating machine, processing equipment for producing at least one web of corrugated board, or indeed a measuring device and control device for determining the shrinkage of the web and adjusting the scaling factors of the printing patterns accordingly.

Since none of the above mentioned documents discloses a measuring device and control device for determining the shrinkage of the web during its manufacture and calculating scaling factors for the printing patterns accordingly, the current invention is not only non-

obvious but indeed novel in view of the disclosures by Aldén, Welschlau and Spann or any combination thereof.

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 9 is non-obvious in view of Hoffmann in view of Welschlau and Maddalon.

The disclosure by Hoffmann concerns a laminated beverage carrier which has printed graphics disposed on the outer surface. Accordingly, a person skilled in the art would not consider Hoffmann when developing a method for manufacturing sheets of corrugated board according to the generic term of claim 9. Similar to the disclosures discussed above, Hoffmann does not disclose the steps for manufacturing sheets of corrugated board. In addition, Hoffmann does neither disclose the use of a measuring device and a control unit for determining the shrinkage of the web material and determining a scaling factor accordingly.

Welschlau discloses an arrangement for manufacturing printed corrugated paper cuts with an integrated rotary printing machine and at least one cutter. Welschlau does not disclose a method comprising the step of digitally printing at least one web of material. Furthermore, the use of a measuring device and a control device for determining the shrinkage of the corrugated board and for determining the scaling of the printing pattern accordingly is not known from Welschlau.

Maddalon discloses a cutting system for cutting a substrate at right angles. As above, Maddalon does not disclose a method for manufacturing sheets of corrugated board. Thus, a person skilled in the art would not have considered Maddalon when developing a method for manufacturing sheets of printed corrugated board, which is the object of the invention.

Maddalon mentions that there is presently a tendency to use digital printing systems in photographic applications where previously conventional optical systems have been

used. However, even with that disclosure would not have been obvious for a person skilled in the art to apply a digital printing step in the process of manufacturing corrugated board.

Furthermore, Maddalon does not disclose the use of a measuring device and a control unit for determining the shrinkage of the web and determining scaling factors of the printing patterns accordingly. Such a use is entirely non-obvious from the teachings of Maddalon, since there is no shrinkage of the substrate to be printed on within the field of use of that document.

Consequently, claim 9 is both novel and non-obvious in view of the disclosures by Hoffmann, Welschlaue and Maddalon or any combination thereof.

For the same reasons as mentioned above the new claim 12 is also both novel and non-obvious in view of the mentioned disclosures.

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration withdrawal of the outstanding rejections of record. Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and early notice to the effect is most earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-628-5197.

Respectfully submitted,

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